

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants : Andrew H. Hancock

Serial No. : TBD

Art Unit: 3732

Filed : October 12, 2001

Examiner: P. Hirsch

For : APPRATUS AND METHODS FOR OFF-PUMP CARDIAC SURGERY

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to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

October 12, 2001

(Date)

E. Richard Skula

Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative

(Signature)

October 12, 2001

(Date of Signature)

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

This is a Preliminary Amendment for the Divisional Application  
filed on eventdate which is a Division of prior pending application  
Serial No. 09/293,630 filed April 15, 1999. Please amend the above-  
identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel without prejudice Claim 1.

102101-91292660

Per  
Hirsch  
A